

THE "PAPER BAG"

There are two of these apparently, Exhibit 142 on p.513 is described in the Table of Contents as "Bag made out of wrapping paper, found on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building after the assassination." It is shown to a very small scale but clearly shows no markings of such a heavy object as a rifle, and especially a disassembled rifle. I am not certain, but it also seems to show water markings.

Exhibit 3⁶4, p.960, is described in the Table of Contents as ~~XXXX~~ "Replica of the paper bag found on the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository Building shortly after the assassination." They are not identical. There is nothing like a water mark visible on the replica, both sides of the replica are shown, one side with handwriting that I cannot make out with a magnifying glass. Only a single side of the "original" is shown.

I believe that the original was destroyed, allegedly because it had been discolored in the course of certain scientific tests, especially fingerprint tests. Of course, this is no reason, if it is the reason given; there is no necessity for having destroyed it, and if a replica were needed, both the original and the replicas could easily have been preserved.

This bag is also discussed by the British historian now a professor in California, Trevor-Roper, in the London Times story, the original of which I have filed.

Another great difference, clearly visible, is the sharp creasing of the so-called original, showing it was folded into four parts, and a different color on the left as you face it and what looks like a fold indicating it is doubled on the right as you face it. None of these things are visible in the replica. In the case of the creases,

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this is particularly important. Still a different version appears in the report on p.132 where it is marked both as Exhibit 626 and 142. The photographs are not identical. The bags are not in the same position.